

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MEXICO 15549 092342Z

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ACTION ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 OES-06 NSC-05 EB-07 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /039 W

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R 092245Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9111

S E C R E T MEXICO 15549

DEPT PASS ERDA FOR AIA AND DISA; NSC FOR ELLIOT

E. O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: TPHY, TECH, MX

SUBJECT: TRANSELASTIC ULTRACENTRIFUGE PROCESS FOR URANIUM
ENRICHMENT

REF: (A) LTR, DEC 1, HUDGINS TO FRIEDMAN.

(B) TELECON, DEC 2, BENGELSDORF/FRIEDMAN.

1. SCICOUNS FRIEDMAN MET WITH DR. JAMES C. KEITH AND
DELIVERED HUDGINS (ERDA) LETTER EXPLAINING ATOMIC ENERGY
ACT SEC 57B AND 10 CFR 810.

2. DR. KEITH IS PHYSICIST-MATHEMATICIAN SPECIALIZING
IN RELATIVITY THEORY WITH B.S. FROM MIT 1956. WENT
TO NBS IN 1967 WHERE HE CONTINUED RELATIVITY AND
GRAVITATIONAL STUDIES. SUBSEQUENTLY WENT TO DETROIT TO
WORK ON GRAVITATIONAL EFFECTS ON ULTRA HIGH SPEED
ROTATION UNDER AIR FORCE CONTRACT. IN 1964 WENT TO
MEXICO AT INVITATION OF DR. CARLOS GRAEF-FERNANDEZ,
WHOM HE KNEW FROM MIT. GRAEF, PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS
AND SENIOR CONSULTANT TO MEXICAN NUCLEAR ENERGY
INSTITUTE(ININE), SUGGESTED HE CONTINUE GRAVITATIONAL
STUDIES AT NATIONAL UNIVERSITY(UNAM) AND AT INEN
SALAZAR NUCLEAR CENTER. KEITH RECEIVED PH.D. UNDER
GRAEF AND CONTINUES HIS RESEARCH AT SALAZAR.

3. KEITH IS INTERESTED IN BASIC RESEARCH IN RELATIVITY
AND GRAVITATION AND APPEARS NOT REPEAT NOT TO BE PARTICULARLY

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 15549 092342Z

INTERESTED IN PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS, BUT PURSUES THE

URANIUM ENRICHMENT STUDIES AT SUGGESTION OF GRAEF.
KEITH SEEMS HAPPY HERE AND EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT
WITH QUOTE LACK OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH
SCIENTISTS IN U.S. UNQUOTE. HE CLAIMS TO BE CONFUSED
BY BUREAUCRATIC RED TAPE AND SEEMS NAIVE-HE PROBABLY
WILL NOT REPEAT NOT UNDERSTAND NOR RESPOND TO HUDGINS
LETTER.

4. ALTHOUGH SCICOUNS HAS NOT REPEAT NOT VISITED KEITH
IN LABORATORY, IT APPEARS, BASED ON DISCUSSIONS WITH
KEITH, THAT PROCESS IS VERY FAR FROM TECHNICAL OR
ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY.
JOVA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR ENERGY, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, SCIENTISTS, NUCLEAR FUELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MEXICO15549
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760456-0235
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761258/aaaabygu.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ERDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUL 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRANSELASTIC ULTRACENTRIFUGE PROCESS FOR URANIUM ENRICHMENT
TAGS: TPHY, TECH, MX, (KEITH, JAMES C)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006